DOCKET NO: 274815US3PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

SUMITO HASHIMOTO, ET AL.

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. APPLICATION

(BASED ON PCT/JP03/16684)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: SEAL STRUCTURE OF SOLID

FEEDING SCREW, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING REDUCED

METAL USING THE SEAL

STRUCTURE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.